

REMARKS

The Examiner's comments attached to an Advisory Action of October 16, 2000 have been fully considered by Applicants. Applicants submit the above amendments and following remarks in response to the Advisory Action.

Claim 1 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. The term "conjugated diene units" was suggested by the Examiner as acceptable in the Final Office Action.

Claim 2 has been amended to include acceptable language for identifying the carboxylic acid as suggested by the Examiner. Claim 2 has been further amended as suggested by the Examiner. Particularly, the phrase "maleic acid or maleic anhydride" has been substituted for "succinic acid or succinic anhydride" as suggested by the Examiner. Support for this amendment may be found on page 4, lines 8-10, which state "Maleic anhydride or another olefinic carboxyl containing monomer (as described above) having at least one carbon to carbon double bond (unsaturated) is added to the mixture." Additional support for this amendment may be found on page 3, lines 10-13, which state, "Polymers, e.g., polyolefins, can be prepared with carboxyl groups such as succinate or succinic anhydride groups (derived from maleic anhydride) by a variety of methods."

Claims 7 and 9 have also been amended as suggested by the Examiner in the Final Office Action. Particularly, Claims 7 and 9 were deemed by the Examiner to be "...indefinite because it is not known what a polymer comprising polybutadiene signifies." According to the Examiner's suggestion, those claims have been amended to read "butadiene units" rather than "polybutadiene units."

Claim 10 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner to correct a spelling error. The word "form" was amended to the correct word "from." In addition, claim 10 was deemed "...indefinite because 'said C₄-C₈ conjugated diene units' lacks antecedent basis in Claim 1." Applicants recognize this error and have amended claim 10 to read "... said second polymer is comprised of said polymer of conjugated diene units."

Finally, Claim 21 has been amended to read "A composition comprising the reaction product of ..." in accordance with Examiner's proposed language.

Applicants submit these amendments do not raise new issues as they are simply amendments to overcome §112 rejections and use language proposed by the Examiner. The Examiner indicated in the Advisory Action that the claims as amended would be

entered as modified and the outstanding objections to new matter, and rejections under U.S.C §112, first and second paragraph, would be withdrawn. Accordingly, the amendments clearly reduce issues on appeal and should be entered.

If any fee is due in conjunction with the filing of this response, Applicants authorize deduction of that fee from Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

Respectfully Submitted,

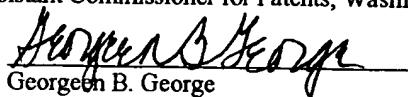
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **AMENDMENT** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on October 30, 2000.


Georgeen B. George

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